

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3091

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY

SUBJ: SYRIAN MINISTER OF CULTURE ATTACKS AMERICAN POLICY

REF: DAMASCUS 1180

1. SYRIAN MINISTER OF CULTURE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE FAWZI AL-KAYYALI IN MARCH 27 ISSUE AL-THAWRAH STRONGLY ATTACKED AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD BRINGING ABOUT SETTLEMENT OF ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE. KAYYALI BEGAN BY DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN STATED GOAL OF KISSINGER MISSION -- MAINTENANCE OF JUST PEACE AND IMPLEMENTATIO OF US RESOLUTIONS -- AND "REAL GOALS" OF MISSION, WHICH HE LISTS AS FOLLOWING: A) ISOLATING EGYPT WITHIN ARAB WORLD, B) ISOLATING ARABS INTERNATIONALLY, C) PROVIDING TIME FOR ISRAEL REBUILD ITS DOMESTIC STRUCTURES AND MILITARY FORCES D) CRUSHING ARAB SOLIDARITY,

E) SEPARATING SYRIA FROM EGYPT, F) SOWING DISCORD

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BETWEEN ARAB MASSES AND THEIR LEADERS, G) SEPARATING ISSUE

OCCUPIED TERRITORIES FROM ISSUE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.

2. KAYYALI ASSERTS THAT KISSINGER DID NOT EXPECT TO ACHIEVE PUBLICLY STATED GOALS. IN EVENT, ALTHOUGH AT TIMES MISSION WAS ON "VERGE OF SUCCESS," HE FAILED TO ACHIEVE ANY OF HIS UNSTATED GOALS. INSTEAD, THE ARABS PROVED TO ALL PEOPLES, ESPECIALLY THE AMERICAS, THAT THE ARABS SERIOUSLY SOUGHT JUST PEACE. SECONDLY, THEY PROVED THAT STRUGGLE IN MIDDLE EAST WAS NOT BETWEEN COMMUNISTS AND CAPITALISTS BUT BETWEEN ARABS AND THOSE WHO TRY TO VIOLATE ARAB RIGHTS. NO WONDER, HE CONTINUES, (LIKUD LEADER) BEGIN SPEAKS OF NECESSITY TO INCREASE PROPAGANDA DIRECTED AT AMERICAN PEOPLE, WHO HAVE FINALLY BEGUN TO REALIZE IMPLICATIONS THEIR ASSISTANCE TO ZIONIST STATE AND DO NOT WISH TO SUFFER MORAL AND MATERIAL LOSSES SUCH AS THEY ENDURED IN INDO-CHINA THROUGH SUPPORT OF ISRAEL. KAYYALI CONCLUDES, " AS FOR THE PARTIAL VICTORIES AND TEMPORARY SUCCESSES ACHIEVED BY KISSINGER ALONG THE MARCH TO HIS COMPLETE AND FINAL FAILURE, HOW EASY IF WAS FOR US TO PUT AN END OF THEM PROMPTLY."

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH KAYYALI'S BROADSIDE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CARRY MORE WEIGHT WERE HE BAATH PARTY MEMBER INSTEAD OF NASSERIST ARAB SOCIALIST UNION PARTY SECRETARY-GENERAL, AND REPORTEDLY MERE FIGUREHEAD WITHIN THAT PARTY RATHER THAN DYNAMIC FORCE, HE IS NONETHELESS, SYRIAN MINISTER AND AS SUCH THE FIRST SYRIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL TO PUBLICLY CRITICIZE SECRETARY'S EFFORTS SINCE SUSPENSION OF HIS MISSION.
MURPHY

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